



**I'M
TRAVELING
WITHIN MY
GRANDPA'S
MEMORIES.**

**ONCE
AGAIN...**

ACT 20

A VISITOR TO THE MEIJI ERA (I)

**I
DON'T
KNOW
THAT.**



**AGAIN?!
WHAT KIND
OF MEMORY
IS IT THIS
TIME?!**

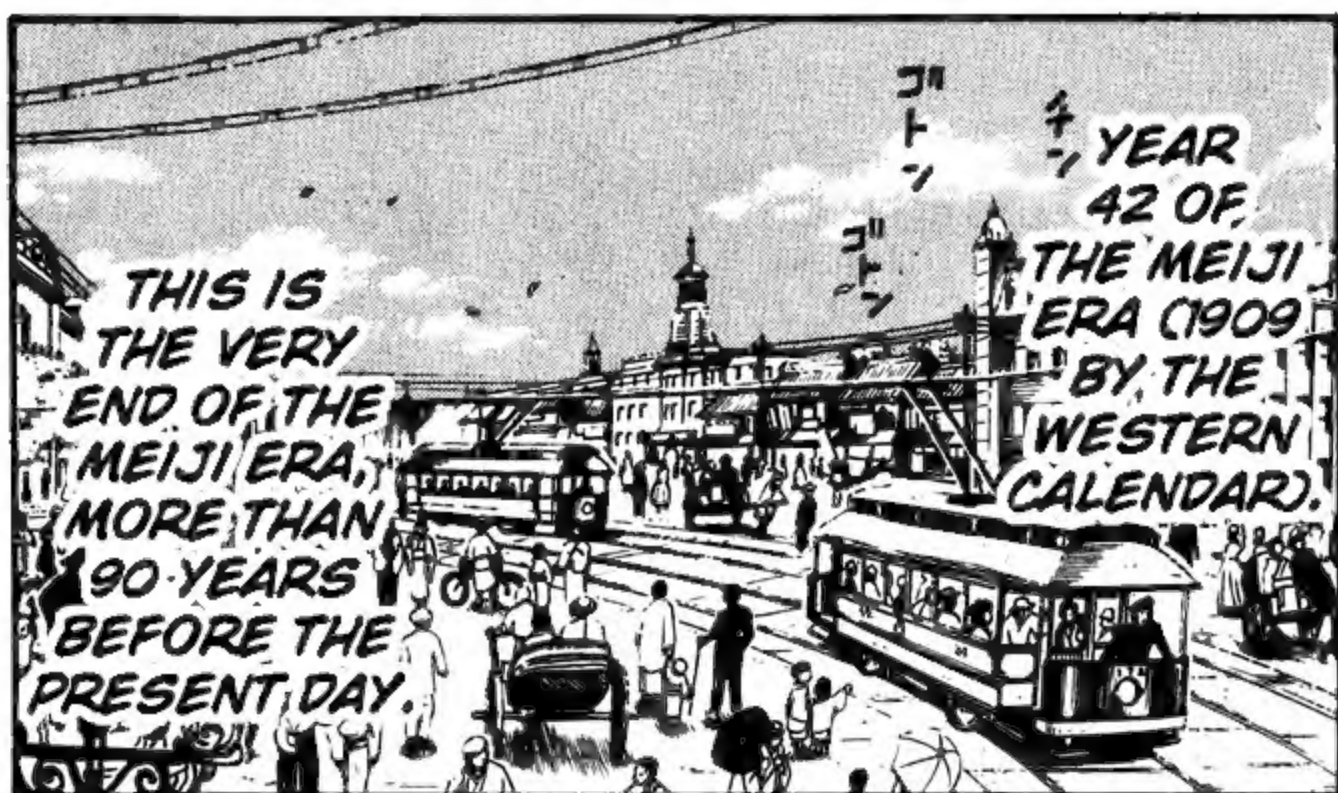
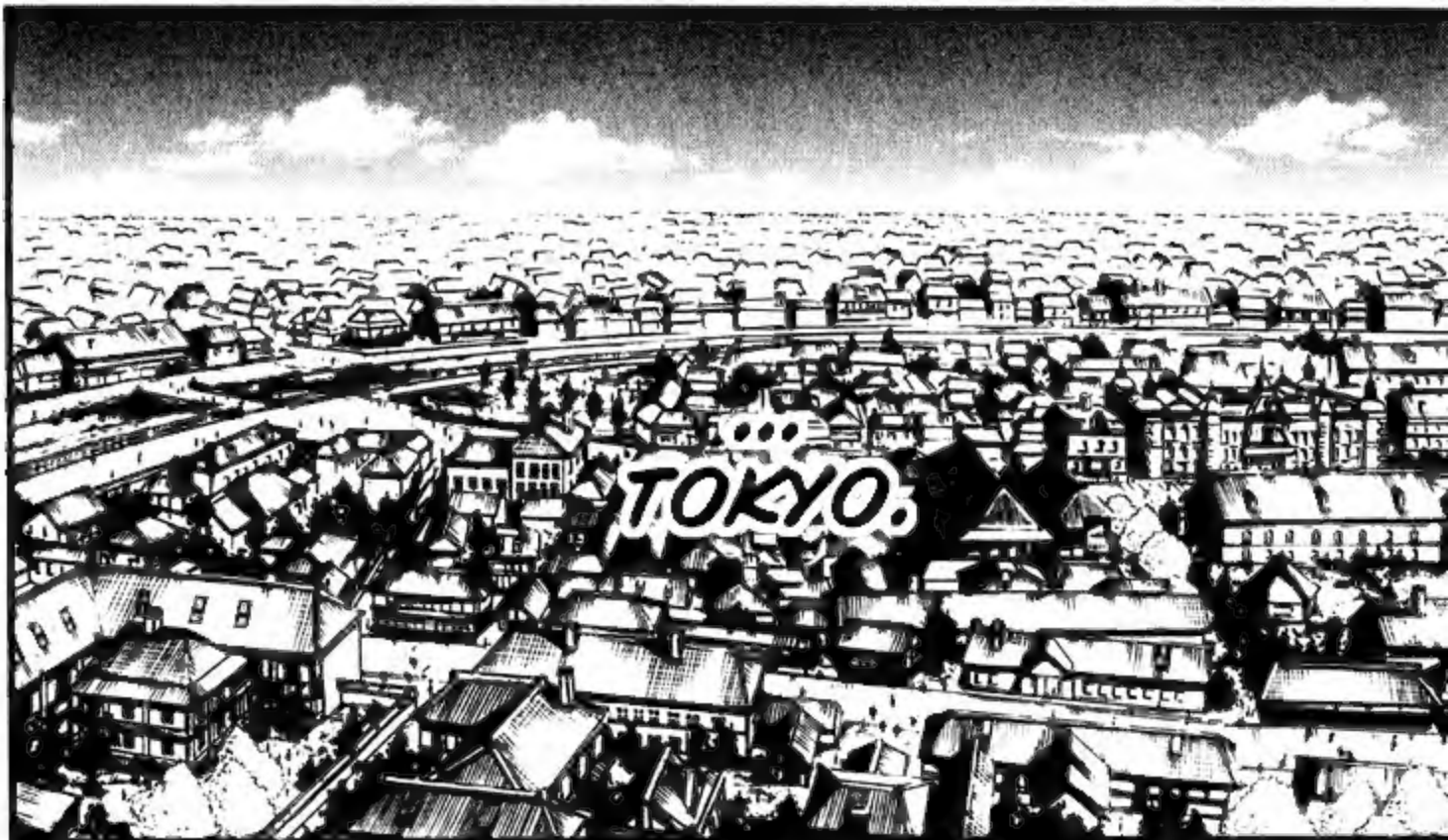
**BECAUSE
I DRANK THE
BLOOD...
THAT
CONTAINS HIS
MEMORIES.**



**THIS
MEMORY IS
THE MOST
IMPORTANT
ONE OF
ALL.**

**BUT
I DO
KNOW
ONE
THING.**







A PRAYER FOR VICTORY—SAIGA ANGELINA

3





AND
SHOUJI
IS 49.

OH,
GOOD.

THAT'S WHY
THEY'RE STILL
SO YOUNG.



THOSE WHO
DRINK AQUA
VITAE AGE ONLY
ONE YEAR FOR
EVERY FIVE
THEY LIVE.



RIGHT NOW,
SHIROGANE
ALL OVER
THE WORLD
ARE USING
...

NOT AT
ALL. I'M
SURE THE
PUPPETS
GAIN
STRENGTH
FROM THE
WORDS YOU
WRITE.



BUT I
STILL CAN'T
CONTRIBUTE
ANYTHING
MORE THAN
THAT...

SO NOW
SCHWARZES
TOR HAS
ITS LUCKY
CHARM
TOO.



THAT
YOU AND
I MADE.

THESE
PUPPETS...



BUT
I NEVER
COULD HAVE
PULLED IT
OFF WITHOUT
YOUR KNOW-
LEDGE.

THE PUPPETS
YOU BUILD ARE
TOP OF THE LINE
WHEN IT COMES
TO COMBAT
POWER, EASE
OF USE, AND
DURABILITY.



BESIDES,
AREN'T YOU
THE ONE WHO
SAID THAT YOU
WANTED TO
WORK WITH THE
SHIROGANE
AND BUILD
THEM MORE
POWERFUL
PUPPETS?



WE
PASSED
THROUGH
SO MANY
DANGERS
ON OUR
WAY FROM
NAGASAKI
TO EDO.



YES,
I CAN
SEE IT
NOW...

IT'S
BEEN
SIXTY-
SEVEN
YEARS
...

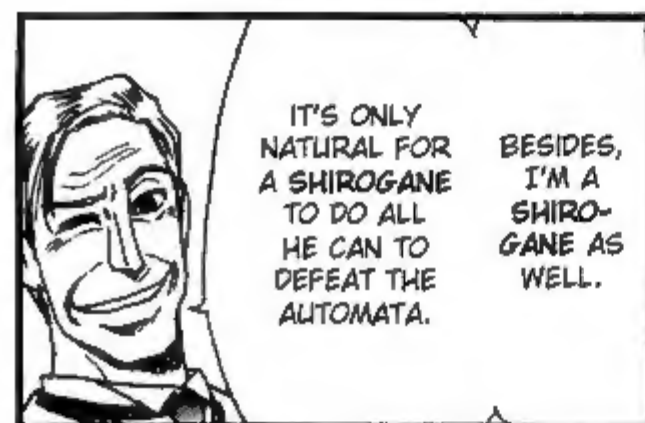


WE
CAREFULLY
STUDIED YOUR
ARLEQUIN
TOGETHER...

AND
STARTED
TO BUILD
NEW MARI-
ONETTES.

AND
WHEN
YOU SAID
THAT YOU
WANTED
TO HELP
YOUR
MOTHER
AS A SHI-
ROGANE
...

THAT
BECAME
MY GOAL
AS WELL.



IT'S ONLY
NATURAL FOR
A SHIROGANE
TO DO ALL
HE CAN TO
DEFEAT THE
AUTOMATA.

BESIDES,
I'M A
SHIRO-
GANE AS
WELL.



HA HA HA!
ANGELINA,
I'VE BEEN
INTERESTED
IN KARAKURI
DOLLS EVER
SINCE I
WAS A
BOY.

THANK
YOU FOR
GOING SO
FAR JUST
FOR ME...



WE'RE
THE MARRIED
PRESIDENTS
OF THE SAIGA
MECHANICAL
COMPANY.

WE
BECAME
UNMATCHED
IN THE
FIELD OF
MECHANICS.

ON
TOP OF
THAT...
AS WE
BUILT
THESE
PUPPETS
TO HELP
THEM...

NOT AS
A CLAN,
BUT AS A
BUSINESS.

BEFORE
WE EVEN
REALIZED IT,
WE WERE
KNOWN BY
THE NAME
SAIGA...

お加集の
賀領し合ふ
名うた
お加集

FROM
EDO AND
THE SUR-
ROUNDING
REGIONS,
TO AID
US.

YES...
WE BEGAN
BY CALLING
TOGETHER
PUPPETEERS
WHO HAD
BUILT
KARAKURI
DOLLS...

*SEE END NOTES

器真寫

AFTER THAT
WE BEGAN
SELLING PRO-
DUCTS THAT
INCORPORATED
WESTERN
TECHNOLOGY.

EXACTLY.
TIGERS OR
MONKEYS
THAT MOVED
WHEN YOU
PULLED
THEIR
STRINGS.

HEE HEE...
WE STARTED
OUT WITH
SOME SILLY
LITTLE
TOYS.

BECAUSE
I WANTED
TO BOAST
ABOUT MY
HUSBAND'S
MARIONETTES
TO THE OTHER
SHIROGANE.

YES.

AND YOU
CONTACTED
YOUR MOTHER
IN FRANCE
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

SAIGA
BECAME
A HUGE
COMPANY
WITH IN-
FLUENCE
IN THE
NEW
GOVERN-
MENT.

AFTER
POLITICAL
AUTHORITY
WAS REST-
ORED TO THE
EMPEROR,
THE EDO
SHOGUNATE
CEASED TO
EXIST, AND
WHEN JAPAN
WAS OPENED
UP...

Hee
hee



BUT
I AM
VERY
HAPPY.

...THAT
SOUNDS
LIKE A
COM-
PLAINT
...



Ahem

YOU
KNOW
THAT
KIND
OF TALK
EMBAR-
RASSES
ME...



I HATE TO
BE THE ONLY
ONE SITTING
AROUND
PEACEFULLY
WHILE THE
OTHER
SHIROGANE
FIGHT.



SHOUJI-
SAMA,
PREPARA-
TIONS ARE
COMPLETE
FOR THE
FAREWELL
PARTY.



SFX:
KNOCK
KNOCK



DEAN
MAISTRE...
HE'S BEEN
A GREAT
FRIEND TO
ME THESE
PAST FORTY
YEARS.



HEE HEE.
NO ONE
WILL BE
USING
THAT NAME
ONCE HE
LEAVES
JAPAN.



I SEE.
SO TODAY
IS SADA-
YOSHI'S
FAREWELL
PARTY?



WHEN
JAPAN
FINALLY
OPENED
UP.

HE
ARRIVED
SOON
AFTER
YOU SENT
WORD...



IT'S
STILL A
BIG DEAL
FOR
FOREIGNERS
TO ENTER
THE
COUNTRY.

EVEN
THOUGH
FREE
TRADE
IS TECH-
NICALLY
ALLOWED
...

STILL
NOT
HERE,
HUH?

**FORTY
YEARS
AGO...**



BUT TO
THINK THEY'RE
SENDING A SINGLE
SHIROGANE TO ACT
AS INTERMEDIARY
AND COLLECT OUR
PUPPETS FROM
JAPAN...

IT WAS
ENOUGH OF
A MIRACLE
THAT THAT
LETTER ENDED
UP IN FRANCE
AFTER YOU
GAVE IT TO
A DUTCH
SHIP...

SFX: CASUAL 9



OH!

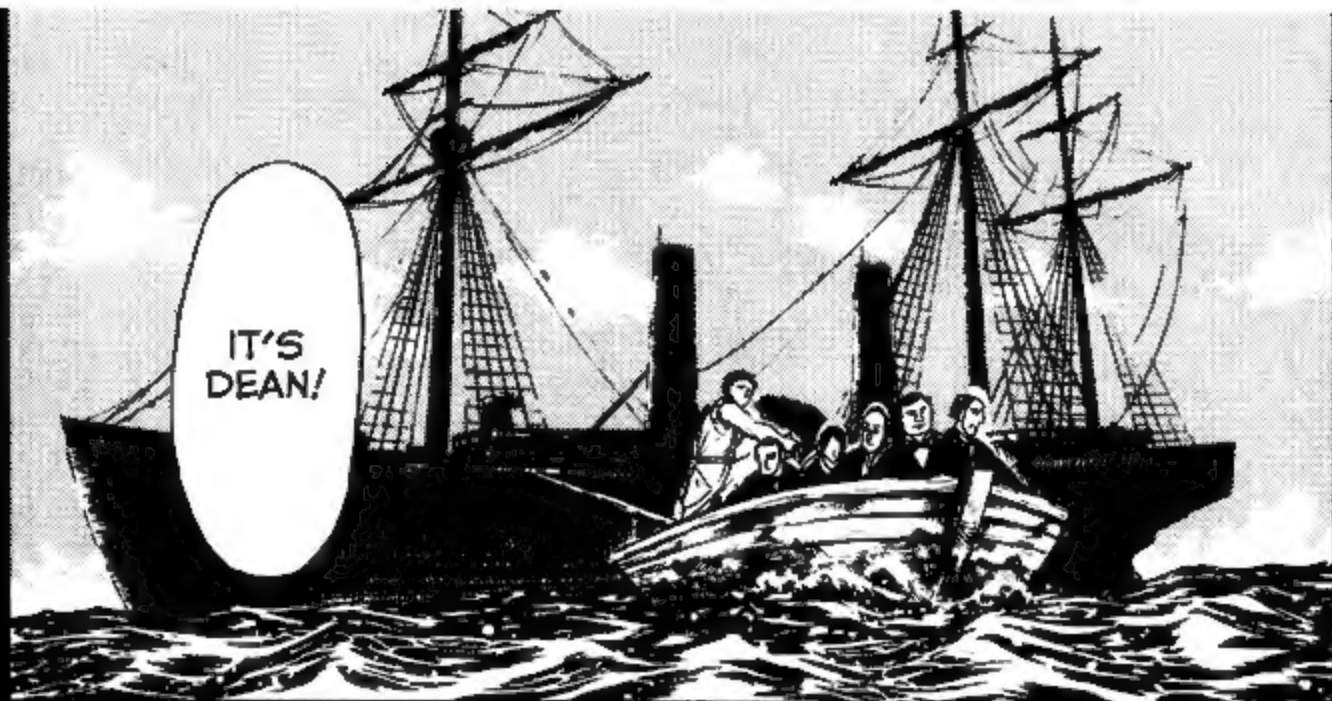
I'M
NOT
SURE
ANY-
ONE'S
ACTU-
ALLY
...

YOU
WERE A
PRETTY
SPECIAL
CASE!

Gave me
the chills
when I
heard the
story

けろり

I
MADE
IT IN,
DIDN'T
I?



IT'S
DEAN!



DEAN
IS VERY
GOOD
WITH DIS-
GUISES.



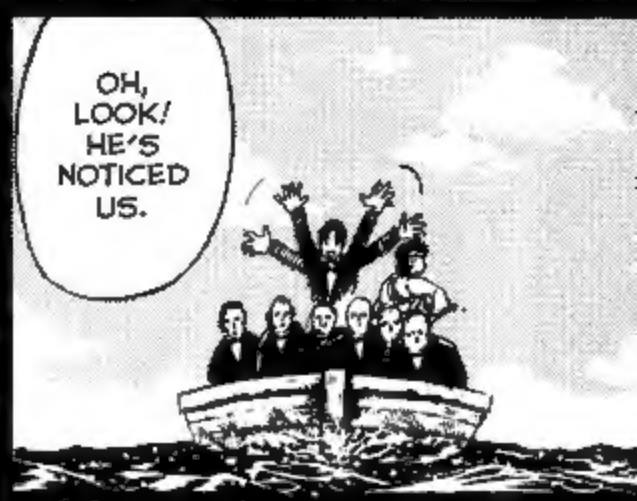
HEE
HEE
HEE.



YOU
KNOW
HIM?

BUT HE'S
SUPPOSED
TO BE SOME
YOUNG
FOREIGN
GUY, RIGHT?
I DON'T SEE
ANYONE LIKE
THAT.

10

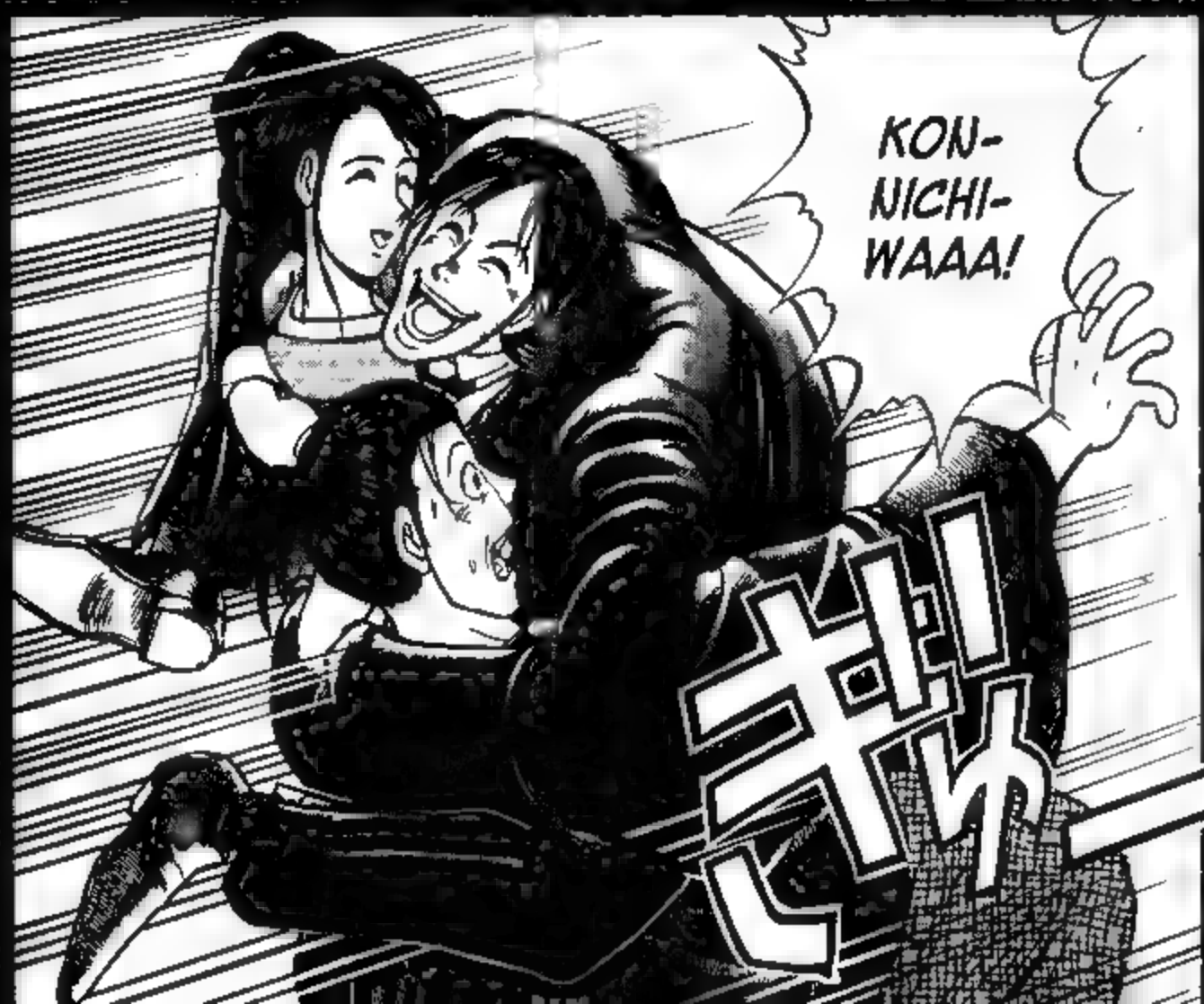


OH,
LOOK!
HE'S
NOTICED
US.



DEAN!
IT'S
SO
GOOD
TO
SEE
YOU
AGAIN!

OH,
HIM?





YOU'RE
TAKING
THINGS
TOO
FAR,
DEAN.

ANGELINA!
ANGELINA!
YOU'RE
ALL RIGHT!
YOU LOOK
SO VERY
HEALTHY!



MON-
SIEUR
SHOUJI!
MONSIEUR
SHOUJI!
THANK YOU
SO VERY
MUCH!!

YOU'VE
MADE
ANGE-
LINA
HAPPY!

UH...
YEAH...

SFX: "RUB RUB"



YOU
NEVER
CHANGE,
DO YOU?

WAS
NOT
EXPECT-
ING THAT
...

OH, DO
EXCUSE
ME! I'M
JUST
SO VERY
HAPPY!

ばいっ



THE
NAME'S
DEAN
MAISTRE.
PLEASED
TO MEET
YOU!

I'M THE
SHIROGANE
APPOINTED BY
MADAME LUCILLE
TO WORK WITH YOU
ON TRANSPORTING
AND PRODUCING
THE MARIO-
NETTES.



ひよ
ひよ
ひよ

JUST
CALL ME
DEAN,
MONSIEUR
SHOUJI!



YOU TOO...
I'M SAIGA
SHOUJI.
YOU SURE
GOT A LOT
OF ENERGY
THERE...



AHAHAHA!
YOU SURE
ARE ONE
FUNNY
GUY!

PFFT
...



I'M
HOPE-
LESS!
I JUST
CAN'T
STAY
SERI-
OUS.

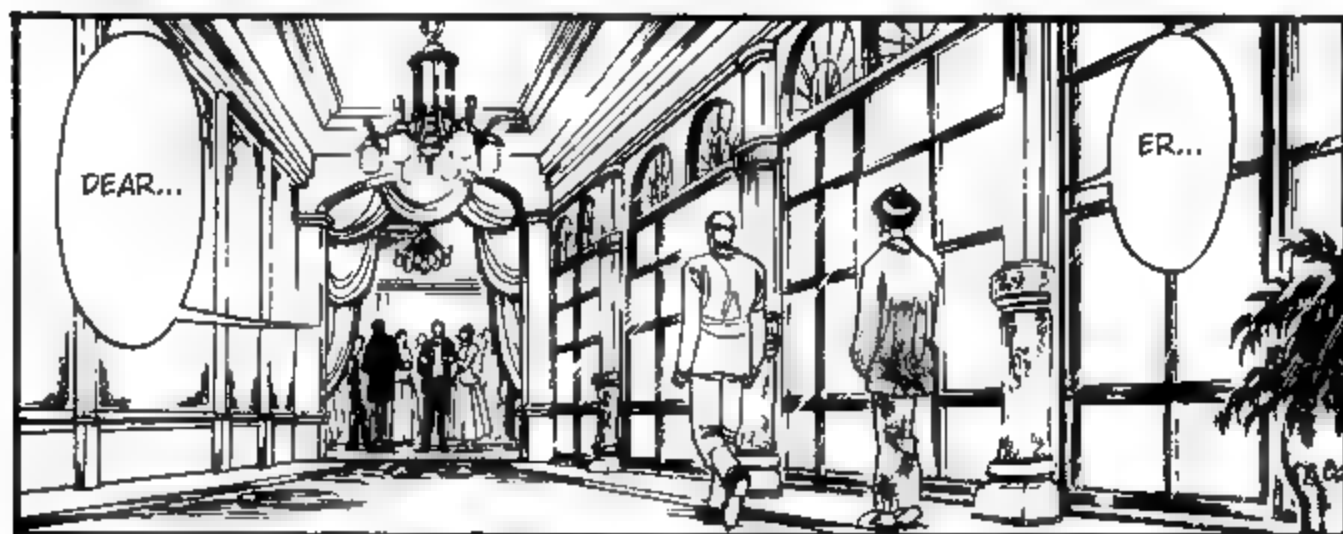
OH...
DO
EX-
CUSE
ME.



HE
WAS SO
CHEERFUL
THAT MY
NERVOUS
FEELINGS
ABOUT THE
SHIROGANE
VANISHED IN
AN INSTANT.

BACK
THEN I
FELT AS IF
I'D ALREADY
KNOWN
HIM FOR A
HUNDRED
YEARS.

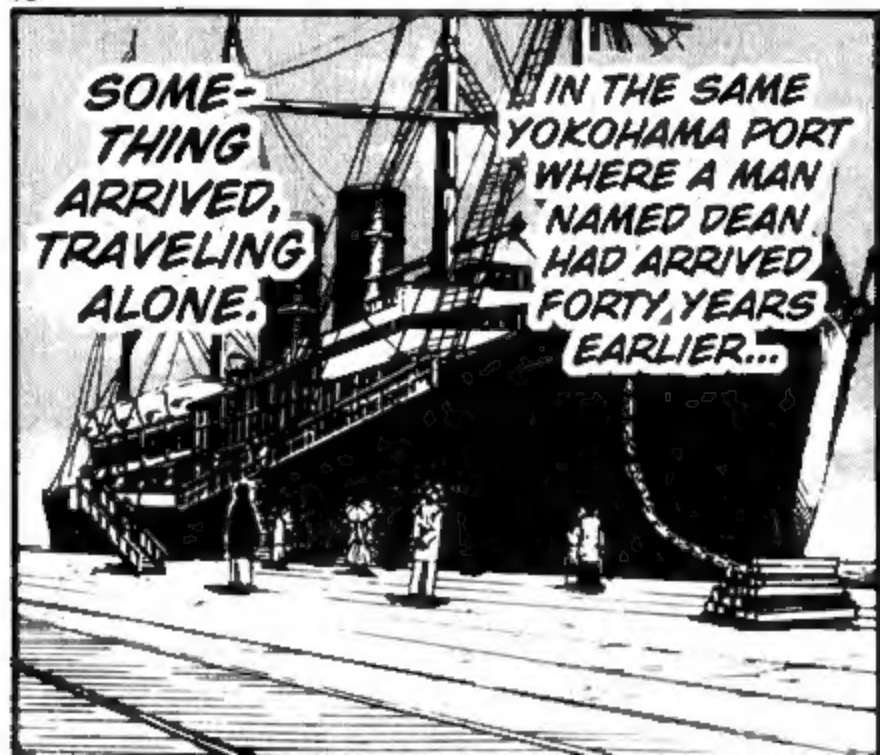




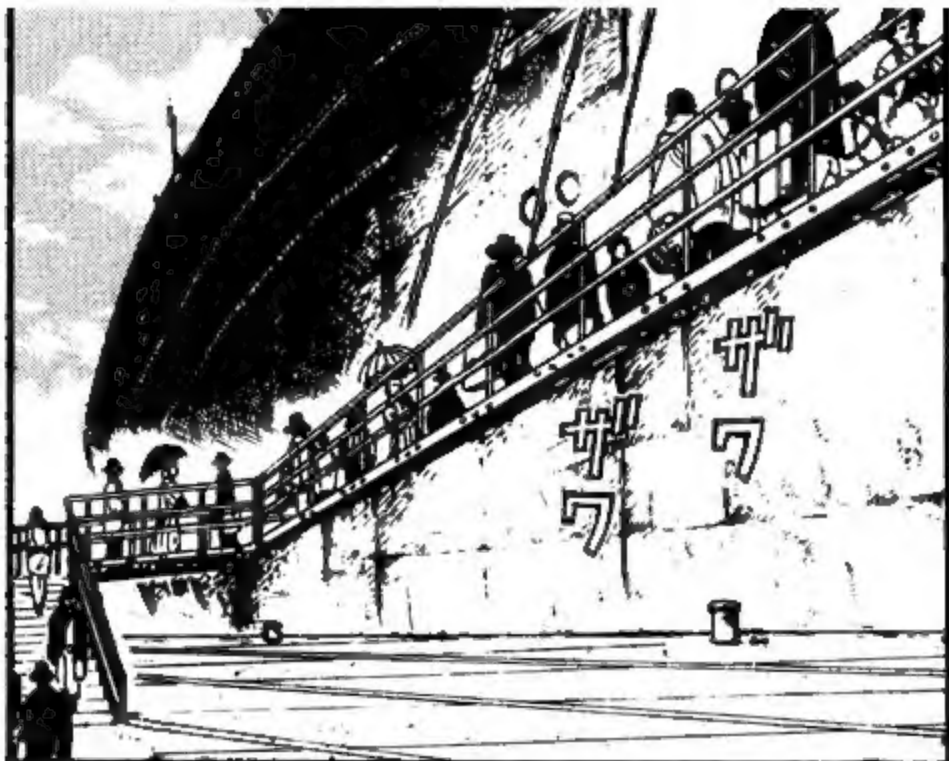




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ON THAT VERY
DAY, THOUGH OF
COURSE SHOUJI (I)
AND ANGELINA-SAN
COULD NOT HAVE
KNOWN...



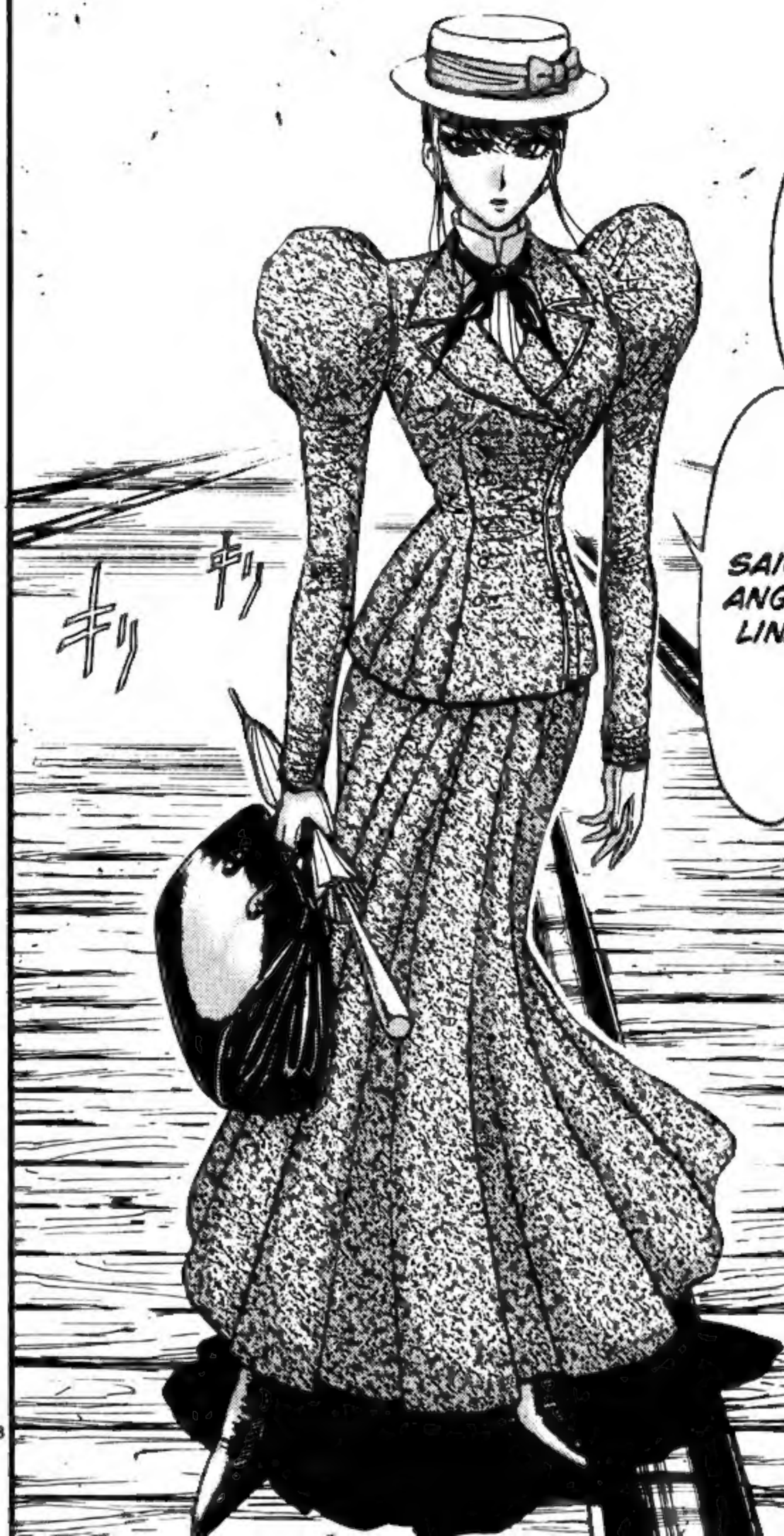
SFX: CLICKING; FOOTSTEPS 17



I HAVE A REQUEST.

HUH?





I
WISH TO
MEET WITH
SOMEONE
BY THE
NAME
OF...

SAIGA
ANGE-
LINA.

NOTES:

pg. 6: 才賀機巧社: *Saiga Kikousha*.

機巧 is read here as *kikou*, trick or contrivance. *Karakuri* has essentially the same meaning, and 機巧 is used in several other manga to refer to mechanical dolls like the puppets in **Karakuri Circus**.

pg. 7: As you can see, the cursive text is *extremely* difficult to read; the important part is that the Saiga (才賀) conglomerate is so named from the 才 (genius) and 賀 (joy) of *karakuri*.

The tiger in the second panel is Tora from **Ushio & Tora**.

pg. 14: Adopting an adult son to carry on the family name or business was (and is) a common practice in Japan.

In October of 2016, Kodansha USA will be releasing the first volume of Fujita's seinen series **Black Museum: The Ghost and the Lady**! The second and final volume will follow in December. If you're enjoying *Karakuri Circus*, this is a great opportunity to show your support for the creator and show that there's a market for his work over here! Full disclosure: his shounen series are published through Shogakukan, (i.e., Viz) so buying this release is not a direct pipeline to licenses for them. However, this is the first of Fujita's manga *ever* to be licensed in English since he debuted in 1989. Sentai Filmworks will also be releasing their dub and subs of the *Ushio and Tora* anime at some point, which is another great way to show your support. Please remember that each chapter of this manga represents an entire work week for Fujita and his assistants, and they deserve to be paid for their work in whatever way possible!

These scanlations have been uploaded *only* to Batoto so that I can remove them if the series is ever licensed. Please read them there instead of on websites that rip them and watermark them to make a profit off your views!

Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.